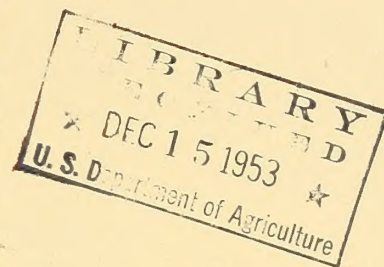


Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

STOKES—Pioneers in Better Tomatoes



Seeds and Plants for 1954

The Stokes organization have been breeding and growing tomatoes for a great many years. Historically, the record goes back to 1881 when Johnson and Stokes entered the seed business in Philadelphia. From the earliest days tomato was an item of great importance.

In more recent years Stokes introductions have included Stokesdale and Valiant, to be followed within the last ten years by development of hybrid tomatoes of which the Stokescross strains have made an important contribution.

For the past five years this company has made special progress because of producing two generations per year, one in New Jersey and one in the Province of Santa Clara, Cuba. These two crops per year have speeded the hybrid results and have been a further check on the type purity factor of the standard varieties.

The folder you are now reading brings the Stokes effort up to date as of December 1, 1953. We would make it very clear that the descriptions and days to maturity in this folder supercede the more formal booklet which is again sent you for cultural assistance. You will be guided accordingly.

In compliance with the request of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, we are abandoning the term F_2 hybrid, and replacing it with the slightly more descriptive phrase F_2 of the hybrid. The Department has graciously allowed us to continue the use of any printed matter still on hand.

The tomato is by all means the most important vegetable in the United States. Its economic value at the farm continues to exceed \$200,000,000. The Stokes Company takes satisfaction in having pioneered many type improvements.

FRANCIS C. STOKES COMPANY

Vincentown, New Jersey

Phone: 7011

Standard Open Pollinated Varieties



Valiant - Days to Maturity 68

**One of the most important tomatoes
for the extra early market**

It is large, smooth, and a heavy producer. A Stokes introduction of 1936, it is an outcross that has contributed much to the tomato industry of the United States and Canada. It is a half-brother of Stokesdale. As a money maker for the extra-early market trade we know of none better. It is a tomato of great importance.

Stokesdale - Days to Maturity 73

Early and profuse bearer of high quality tomatoes.

Stokesdale, a Stokes introduction of 1936, comes from the same outcross source as Valiant. The two have brought wealth and satisfaction to tomato growers in many states. Stokesdale, as developed and maintained by the originator, will produce a 5 ounce fruit, 5 days later than Valiant.

Master Marglobe-Days to Maturity 78

**This Master Strain during 26 years has earned
millions of dollars for the tomato industry.**

Stokes Master Marglobe is a 5½ ounce shipping tomato, perfectly formed with smooth shoulders and a very solid interior. Its high production is attested by the fact that many of our customers regularly raise over 50 tons per acre under glass. Stokes has taken a leading part in maintaining the strength and trueness to type of this variety.

Queens - Days to Maturity 70

A large, early-market tomato.

Introduced in 1951 by Professor Lyman G. Schermerhorn of Rutgers University, this is a cross between Rutgers and Valiant. It produces large quantities of 6 ounce fruit almost as early as Valiant.

Rutgers - Days to Maturity 85

**This variety has larger, wider adaptability than
any tomato ever introduced in North America.**

Rutgers is also the work of Professor Schermerhorn. The fruit is large and the plant vigorous and productive. To attain a full yield, limit nitrogen feeding until after the main blossom set. Rutgers is a favorite market and cannery tomato east of the Rockies.

The Strength of Stokes Proving Ground Stocks.

Subject to being unsold, we offer seed produced on Stokes Proving Grounds. This is one generation closer to the original single plant selection. This Proving Ground seed is considered by many growers as the De Luxe tomato seed of the industry. Many of the most successful growers believe that the higher price for this seed is fully justified in the results.

The price of Proving Ground Stocks of the above varieties is as follows:

Garden Packet 25c. Trade Packet \$1.00. Ounce \$5.00

The Stokescross Hybrids

All of these are the F₂ Generation of the Hybrid

STOKESCROSS No. 1 —

Days to maturity 70.

This new, large and very early tomato may well prove to be your most profitable variety. It must not be in any way confused with the now obsolete Stokescross No. 1 described in the booklet "How to Grow Better Tomatoes." The size will average from 5 to 6 ounces. A large proportion of the crop will mature in the extra early season. For the early market the quality is superb. At one time this past season Stokescross No. 1 brought \$6.00 per 4/8 bu. peach basket. Essentially a market garden tomato it will find important use as a processing tomato in the northern tier states. Do not overlook Stokescross No. 1. Recommended spacing is 3 x 5 ft.

STOKESCROSS No. 2 —

Days to maturity 75.

An early, continuous bearer of 5½ ounce fruit.

Stokescross No. 2 combines earliness, productiveness and flavor. We consider that its processing qualities are excellent, either for peeling or for tomato products.

STOKESCROSS No. 3 —

Days to maturity 77.

An enormous producer of 5 ounce tomatoes.

The bearing season is long.

Stokescross No. 3 is main season and if normally fed and sprayed it will produce over a four months bearing season. It will give its best performance on the heavier soils.

STOKESCROSS No. 4 —

Days to maturity 75.

Hybrid vigor develops a crop of 5-6 ounce fruit.

Stokescross No. 4 is grown both for the green wrap trade and for the processor. This tomato has sometimes made a return of over \$500.00 per acre. It will develop full color right to the stem. Its interior structure will allow long distance shipping. Its delicate sweet flavor is highly prized.

STOKESCROSS No. 5 —

Days to maturity 77.

**Perhaps the strongest tomato
on the entire Stokes list.**

The vine is strong and the fruits are of the highest quality. Yields exceeding 30 tons per acre have been recorded a number of times. Its hybrid vigor develops a strong full vine which sets heavily and which develops high flavored fruit. Main Season.



The uniformity of Stokescross strains is graphically illustrated by this photograph of a basket of Stokescross No. 1 Tomatoes made in our Vincentown Proving Ground on August 26, 1953. The round, firm fruit averages 5 to 6 ounces and is of superb quality.

Stokes Pedigreed Tomato Plants

Georgia Grown. Ready May 1, 1954.



Three Standard Varieties and three Hybrid Strains.

Prices include delivery from Georgia to our Vincentown, New Jersey plant.

Advance reservations should be made.

Plants of Standard Varieties: Valiant, Master Marglobe and Rutgers.

Stokescross Hybrids: Stokescross No. 1, Stokescross No. 4, & Stokescross No. 5

Price of any of the above \$6.00 per thousand, F.O.B. Vincentown, New Jersey.

FRANCIS C. STOKES COMPANY

Pioneers in Better Tomatoes

Vincentown, New Jersey

Phone: 7011